

Mr. Thompson moved that the Report of the Committee be adopted.

Pending which,

Mr. Annan submitted the following

MINORITY REPORT.

The undersigned, a minority of the Committee on Federal Relations, to which was referred the Resolutions introduced by Mr. Brace, of Allegany, on the death of Hon. Charles Sumner, respectfully declines to concur in the Report of the majority of said Committee. The political career of the honorable gentleman named in said Resolutions, was of such extraordinary nature, and of such brilliant character, as to necessarily challenge the admiration of friends and enemies alike. The work of his life was one of humanity and love—a work in which he was supported by a large number of the ablest, the truest, the best statesmen of his day. His course, (although his theories were a few years ago diametrically opposed to those of a large majority of his countrymen,) has always been such as by its honesty, its candor, its straightforwardness, to win the admiration of all. Engaged for years, it may be said for a lifetime, in a labor of the broadest philanthropy, bending every energy to the accomplishment of a great purpose, he lived to see a success crown his efforts, such as has seldom been vouchsafed to any human undertaking. Although at times his better judgment may have been blinded by considerations such as the mightiest mind cannot at all times free itself from; still, no one can be so bitterly prejudiced as to deny that in the main his heart was right and his head was clear.

It would be worse than useless for me to attempt an eulogy on the character of Mr. Sumner. The demonstrations of his fellow-citizens, the heartfelt exhibitions of sorrow, the unmistakable signs of woe which have spontaneously burst forth all over our common country, are indications of the regard and esteem in which he was held, compared to which the few efforts of any one would be very feeble indeed. Such being the character of the man, and such the feelings of his country, is it to be wondered at or deprecated that organized bodies all over the country should give expression to the common feeling, in the shape of Resolutions similar to those we have now before us? It is true indeed that a large number of us differ politically from his views, but who has ever charged that the impulses of the Maryland heart were so ungenerous as to refuse a just won tribute of respect to an honest opponent. Is not that feeling which prompts us to be just to a living opponent greatly intensified by his death? Can